



State of Utah

Department of
Natural Resources

Division of
Oil, Gas & Mining

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Executive Director

LOWELL P. BRAXTON
Division Director

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Lieutenant Governor

February 27, 2004

Mr. Pete Sokolosky
Bureau of Land Management
Vernal Field Office
170 South 500 East
Vernal, Utah 84078

Subject: Proposal to Release Roads from Reclamation Liability, American
Gilsonite, Bonanza Operations, M/047/010, Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Sokolosky:

On February 11, 2004, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining received a letter from American Gilsonite (copy enclosed) requesting release from reclamation and bonding requirements for certain roads and mine areas. We need your comments about releasing the roads. We do not need input about the mine sites because one of the sites has already been released and the other three all appear to be on fee or patented land.

Most of the roads listed, specifically those designated numbers 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 18, appear to cross lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The Division has not yet received documentation from Uintah county that these roads are part of the county road system, but we assume this is forthcoming.

Before allowing these roads to remain following mining, we would like to receive your concurrence that this would be acceptable to the BLM.

Please contact me (801-538-5261 or e-mail paulbaker@utah.gov) if you need further information about the locations of these roads or about the permitting or bonding history of these areas. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Baker, Reclamation Biologist
Minerals Regulatory Program

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